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KILLIAN BACK.

Dr. James R. Killian, chairman of the corporation of Massachusetts Institute of Technology, is going back to Washington in the same job he has already held once before. He will again be chairman of a presidential board on foreign intelligence activities conducted by all the separate American organizations engaged in this work.

Dr. Killian was the first to fill this office when the board was created in 1956 by President Eisenhower. Then called the presidential board of consultants on foreign intelligence activities, it was charged with monitoring the work of the C.I.A., of the intelligence agencies of the armed services, of the state department, of the Atomic Energy commission, and of some other branches of government.

It has been mostly dormant since the change in administrations, but the Cuban episode was one of the factors that led President Kennedy to reactivate it. In retrospect, it is tantalizing to consider what such a monitoring board would have to say now of the intelligence work in preparation for the Cuban fiasco if this board had been functioning in the period in question.

It is reported that most of the entire membership of the board will be new, under the direction of the veteran chairman. Dr. Killian is a regular visitor to Washington on special assignment. The name may be familiar for the service he performed in 1957-59 while he was Eisenhower's special science adviser after the firing of the first Russian sputnik. Since his return to M.I.T., however, he has been publicly urging more American effort and expenditure on education and less on spectacular efforts to match the Soviet Union in space. Before his science advisory role, he had already served on several presidential board and commissions beginning in 1950.